



Serial No. 09/911,850

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 6, 7, 9, 13, and 25 without prejudice or disclaimer and AMEND claims 1, 10, 11, and 24 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An optical disc for use with a recording/reproducing apparatus, ~~the optical disc comprising: in which track grooves are~~ formatted into a waved pattern in ~~the~~ a radial direction of the disc, the disc being divided into a plurality of zones, each zone comprising:

a plurality of sectors each of which includes a data area having a designated recording capacity in which user data is recorded, and an identification area in which zone address information for each zone is recorded based on a predetermined modulation rule; and
at least one coupling area to separate the zone from an adjacent zone to provide additional recording capacity.

wherein, during the recording of the user data in the data areas of each zone, a zone start pattern and a zone end pattern is recorded at the beginning and the end of the user data, respectively, to define a position of the user data within the zone, and

wherein, once the user data is recorded in a particular zone, a predetermined pattern unrelated to the user data is recorded in the coupling area of the zone to correct for a deficiency or an excess of the designated recording capacity of the zone. ~~in which user data is recorded by the apparatus with zone address information for each of the divided zones based on a predetermined modulation rule, wherein each zone has an initial recording capacity and, during a recording of the user data by the apparatus, a zone start pattern and/or zone end pattern is additionally recorded in each zone by the apparatus, and when a first zone is detected by the apparatus, user data is recorded in the data recording area of the first zone before a predetermined pattern unrelated to the user data is recorded in at least one of the coupling areas of the first zone, which is recorded until a next zone is detected.~~

2-7. (CANCELLED)

8. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc of claim 1, wherein the optical disc is a DVD-RAM disc.

9. (CANCELLED)

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The optical disc of claim 91, wherein each of the plurality of sectors has a sector address portion to store a corresponding sector address.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An optical disc for use with a recording/reproducing apparatus, the optical disc comprising:

a plurality of tracks formed in a spiral direction of the optical disc, each track having at least a groove portion; and

a plurality of zones, each zone including a predetermined number of the plurality of tracks, each zone further including a data recording area including an address information area, a zone start pattern area at an inner circumference of the data recording area, a zone end pattern area at an outer circumference of the data recording area, and at least one coupling area at an inner circumference of the zone start pattern area and/or an outer circumference of the zone end pattern area, the coupling area being separate from a user data recording area of each zone,

wherein the optical disc is formatted to include zone addresses for each zone by formatting a portion of the corresponding zone track grooves, in each zone, to include a wobble pattern based on a predetermined modulation rule, and

wherein, during a recording of user data by the apparatus, a first predetermined pattern is first recorded in the zone start pattern area, then user data is recorded in the data recording area, then a second predetermined pattern is recorded in the zone end pattern area, and then a third predetermined pattern is recorded in the coupling area, each predetermined pattern being unrelated to the user data.

12. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc of claim 11, wherein each track further includes a land portion.

13. (CANCELLED)

14. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc of claim 11, wherein the optical disc is a DVD-RAM.

15. (CANCELLED)

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The optical disc of claim 11, wherein the third predetermined pattern recorded in the coupling area is based on a recording or reproduction system to perform recording or reproduction, respectively, to or from the optical disc.

17. (CANCELLED)

18. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc of claim 11, wherein the predetermined modulation rule is one of an FM modulation, an AM modulation, and a PM modulation.

19. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc of claim 11, wherein the predetermined number of the plurality of tracks for each zone is based upon the data recording capacity needed for each zone plus an arbitrary recording capacity.

20. (CANCELLED)

21. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc of claim 11, wherein each zone has a plurality of sectors.

22. (ORIGINAL) The optical disc of claim 21, wherein each of the plurality of sectors has a sector address portion to store a corresponding sector address.

23. (CANCELLED)

24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of recording data on an optical disc, comprising:

dividing the optical disc into a plurality of zones;

formatting a zone address portion of one of the zones to include a wobble pattern based on a predetermined modulation rule and corresponding to an address of the zone;

recording a zone start pattern in a leading portion of the user data portion of the zone to define a start of a user data portion of the zone;

recording user data and address information in the user data portion of the zone following an end of the zone start pattern;

recording a zone end pattern following an end of the user data to define an end of the user data portion of the zone; and

recording a predetermined pattern unrelated to the user data in an additional coupling portion of the zone, after the recording of the zone start pattern, the user data, and the zone end pattern.

25. (CANCELLED)